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Memorandum of Conversation

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DATE: 12/21/66

SUBJECT: U.S.-USSR Consular Convention

PARTICIPANTS: James Lowenstein, Staff, Senate Foreign Relations Committee

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COPIES TO:

Mr. Lowenstein said that he understood that if Senator Fulbright believed the President would support the Consular Convention this year he would discuss it with Committee members early in the session. He would decide whether or not to hold new hearings on the basis of the sentiments expressed by the members. It is likely that the decision would be to hold hearings, and if so there will be pressure to call J. Edgar Hoover to testify in open session. With the principle of adversary proceedings established it will be difficult to resist pressures by various right-wing organizations such as the Liberty Lobby and Lev Dobrianskiy's captive nations groups to testify against the convention.

Mr. Lowenstein said that the syndicated column reporting that Senator Dodd had written to Senator Fulbright asking that Hoover be called to testify on the convention was not true, but that Dodd could be expected to make such a request in the future.

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